



Howard County Council

George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

COUNCILMEMBERS

Calvin Ball, Chairperson
District 2
Jon Weinstein, Vice Chairperson
District 1
Jennifer Terrasa
District 3
Mary Kay Sigaty
District 4
Greg Fox
District 5

Flood Recovery Briefing

Monday, August 22, 2016

4:00 p.m.

Banneker Room

Minutes

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Members Present: Calvin Ball, Chairperson; Jon Weinstein, Vice Chairperson; Greg Fox; Mary Kay Sigaty; Jen Terrasa.

Staff Present: Jessica Feldmark, Council Administrator; Craig Glendenning, County Auditor; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor

Ryan Miller, Director, Howard County Office of Emergency Management, provided an overview of the July 30 flood event, the damage caused, and the recovery efforts to date. Jim Irvin and Jahantab Siddiqui joined Mr. Miller in addressing questions from the Council regarding damage assessments and cost estimates, how damage in other areas of the County is being addressed and how those costs are included, causes of the flood, the status and plans for buildings which have been deemed unsafe to access, repairs to the major sewer interceptor break and the impact of the spill, services provided at the disaster assistance center, housing assistance, volunteer management, school system impacts, public information messaging, business assistance, and recovery efforts.

Council members requested additional information including:

- A chart breaking down cost estimates and reimbursement eligibility;
- Additional information and status updates on preparation of the case study of this event;
- Standards for notice/restrictions regarding sanitary sewer overflows and how those standards compare to those followed in other jurisdictions;
- Status update on most recent water samples – the results, when the samples were taken, and any additional action required;
- Plans for addressing ongoing housing needs beyond the scope of the Maryland Disaster Housing Assistance Program;
- A breakdown of the dwelling units from which residents were displaced by the expected timeframe to make those residences inhabitable again;

- Confirmation that the Administration has contacted Howard Community College to identify any impacted HCC students;
- Any information on possible assistance for merchants to be able to submit credit card charges from the day of the flood;
- Additional information on the Emergency Watershed Protection Program;
- Additional detail on the Community Advisory Group and its work; and
- Ongoing timely communication to keep all Council Members informed as recovery efforts continue.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.